

Annotation

This bachelor thesis deals with pastoral care for people with terminal illness, the aim of this type of care and the possibilities of reaching this aim. Besides Czech and foreign professional literature the thesis gets information from six interviews with people whose profession is this specific form of pastoral care. The bachelor thesis points out a general aim of this form of pastoral care which can be used regardless of the patient's confession or the degree of his/her faith. It also describes this specific pastoral care, sums up the problems, feelings and states which most people face before their death and it tries to offer ways which could help these people. The thesis also tackles the problems of people who accompany the terminally ill and suggests possible ways of coping with the profession. Furthermore the means of this form of pastoral care is described; conversation as the main means of pastoral care is analysed closely. The last chapter contains some biblical references, which can relate to the care of dying people and which can help gain an insight into pastoral care. The end result of this bachelor thesis is that the general aim of pastoral care for people with terminal illness is to reach inner peace and reconciliation. Inner peace which permeates to the human being as a whole; that is his/her physical, emotional, social and, if possible, also spiritual areas.

Keywords: pastoral care, death, holistic approach, reconciliation, spiritual needs